

THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

Planning Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City Launches Pilot Village Program

Neighborhood Revitalization a key goal of program

SAN DIEGO – A citywide effort to revitalize existing San Diego neighborhoods has come to life through an innovative Pilot Village Program. The program launch is a major step in implementing the Strategic Framework Element and City of Villages Strategy adopted by the City Council.

"This is an exciting time in San Diego's history and an opportunity to begin revitalizing our existing neighborhoods," said Planning Director Gail Goldberg. "Our goal is to build three pilot villages that demonstrate how the village concept can be implemented citywide. Our invaluable work with community stakeholders is now focused on cultivating the ideas, tools, resources and energy needed to make this program a reality."

Each of the selected pilots will be a unique opportunity to design and build a showcase project that can provide a community focal point, enhance quality of life for residents and serve as a model for other communities citywide.

The City invites those interested in participating in the Pilot Village Program to submit an application. Applications and information are available online at:

www.sandiego.gov/cityofvillages by calling the General Plan Hotline at (619) 235-5226, by e-mailing <u>Planning@sandiego.gov</u> or by stopping by the Planning Department at 202 C Street, 5th Floor. Completed applications are due to the Planning Department by March 14, 2003.

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An informational open house and question and answer session for those submitting applications, and others interested in the program will be held in the Santa Fe Room of the Balboa Park Club (across from the Hall of Champions) on Thursday, January 16, from 3:00 - 7:00 p.m. The purpose of the event is to provide more information, assist potential applicants with their submittal preparation and answer any additional questions.

Selection of a short-list of potential projects is anticipated by Summer 2003.

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